



JENNIFER M. GRANHOLM
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

LANSING



REBECCA A. HUMPHRIES
DIRECTOR

January 12, 2009

TO: Rebecca A. Humphries, Director

INFORMATION: Natural Resources Commission

Transaction: Wildlife Land Acquisition
Barry State Game Area – Barry County
The Steven Lester Tract
Land Transaction Case #20070337

Purchase Price: 1.0 acre with improvements – \$116,000.00

Description: Barry County, Yankee Springs Township, T03N, R10W, Section 35: Part of the NW ¼ described as commencing 59 rods and 8 feet North of the point where the Highway intersects the North line of the South ½ of the Northwest ¼ of Section 35, T03N, R10W, for place of beginning, thence East 10 rods, thence North 16 rods, thence West to Highway, thence Southerly along the Highway to point of beginning.

Seller: Steven Lester, Middleville, Michigan

Option Expires: March 4, 2009

Stipulation: Seller waives right to relocation benefit of housing or rental supplement, but reserves right to moving allowance of \$1,850.00.

Reservation: Seller reserves: (1) the right to occupy the premises for a period to expire no later than November 1, 2009, and (2) the right to remove wood stove, satellite dish, flagpole and some small landscape plantings.

Property Taxes: The 2008 property taxes were estimated at \$1,669.00

Authority: Part 5 of Act 451, Public Acts of 1994, as amended

Notice: This item will appear on the Department of Natural Resources' (Department) January 26, 2009 Calendar, and is eligible for approval on February 2, 2009.

ANATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION

Keith J. Charters, Chair • Mary Brown • Hurley J. Coleman, Jr. • John Madigan • J. R. Richardson • Frank Wheatlake

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January 12, 2009

Comments: The offered private property is located in west-central Barry County, nine miles southwest of Hastings, in association with 15,462 acres of State-owned land managed as the Barry State Game Area.

The rectangular-shaped one-acre tract exhibits a level topography with well-drained soils and mature trees along its perimeter. The parcel has been improved with a 1 ½ story frame residence and detached two-car garage. The improvements are in good condition and will be removed by Wildlife Division following completion of the purchase and expiration of the use reservation. Access to this parcel is provided by 264 feet of frontage along Yankee Springs Road, a county-maintained roadway located along the western boundary of the tract.

Several years ago, the Department completed a detailed survey of this land that revealed the house and portions of the yard were encroaching on adjoining State-owned land which surrounds the property.

Although the Department will be acquiring a one-acre tract, vacation of the site and removal of the improvements will provide an additional seven acres of land for public hunting opportunities which is not currently usable due to required 'safety zone' set backs which will be eliminated by the purchase.

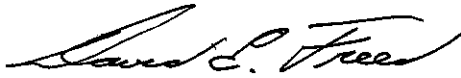
Acquisition of this tract will resolve a long-standing trespass, eliminate a private in-holding, remove the necessity for a safety zone, consolidate State ownership, increase public recreational opportunities, and secure additional wildlife habitat in the Barry State Game Area.

The purchase will include any mineral rights owned by the seller.

Recommendations: (1) That this tract be approved for purchase with payment to be made from funds appropriated for the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund, Wildlife Land Consolidation Initiative, as approved in Act 59, Public Acts of 2007.

January 12, 2009

(2) That the buildings be removed by the Wildlife Division following completion of the purchase and expiration of the use reservation.



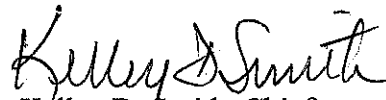
David E. Freed, Chief
Land and Facilities



Russ Mason, Chief
Wildlife



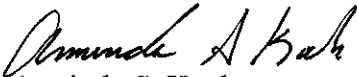
Lynne M. Boyd, Chief
Forest, Mineral and Fire Management



Kelley D. Smith, Chief
Fisheries



Ronald A. Olson, Chief
Parks and Recreation



Arminda S. Koch
Resource Management Deputy

I approve the staff recommendations.

Rebecca A. Humphries
Director

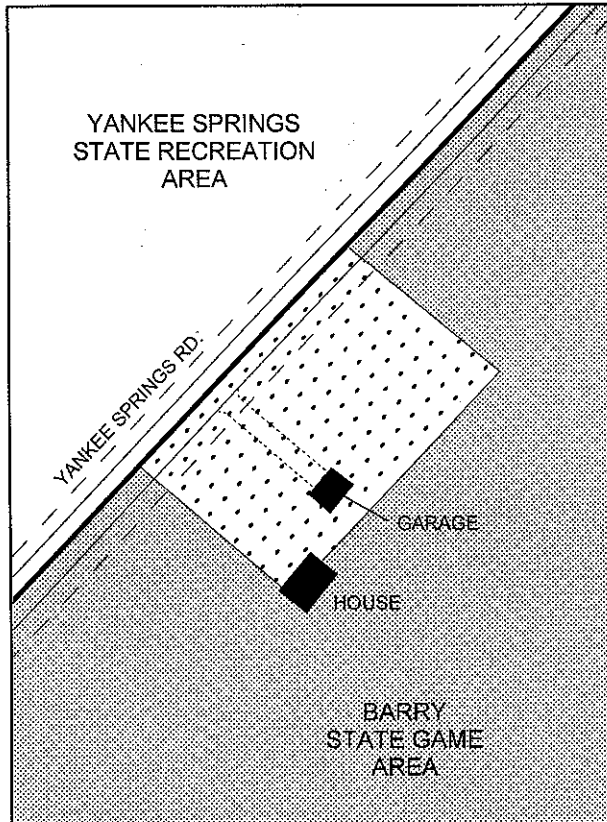
Date Approved

WILDLIFE LAND ACQUISITION

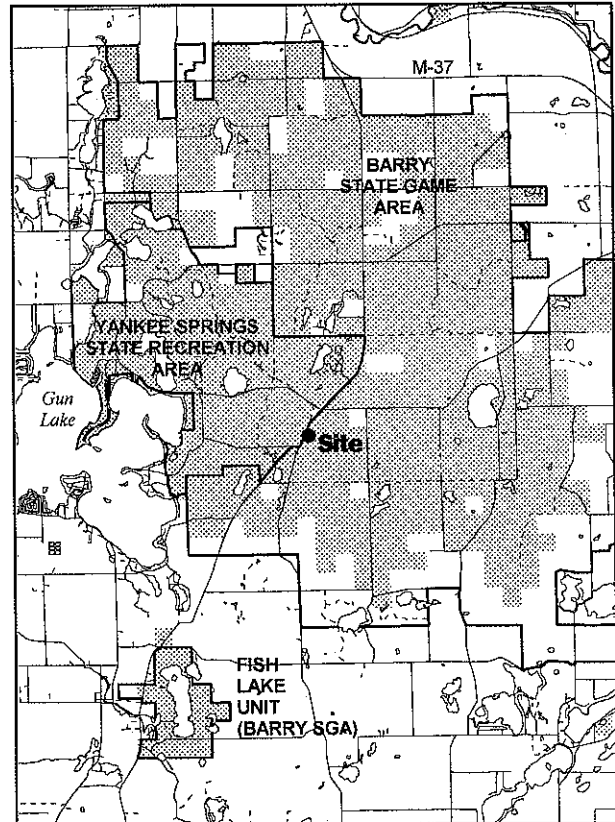
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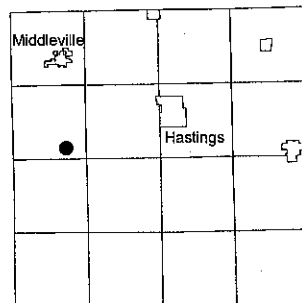
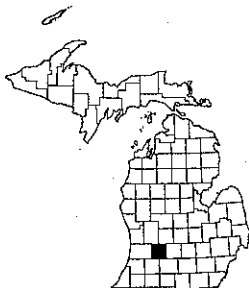


Section 35, T03N, R10W
Yankee Springs Township



Regional Location

- State park and state game area boundaries
- - Road right-of-way
- Private land offered to DNR (1.00 acre with improvements - \$116,000.00)
- State land
- Private land



BARRY COUNTY



DNR-FMFM
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